

Children's Justice Act Committee
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
100 Community Place, 1st Floor, Conference Room, Side A
Crownsville, MD 21032
Thursday, September 27, 2018
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members:

Arnold Eby, Chair (phone)
Detective Thomas Pyles, Vice Chair
Michelle Chudow (phone)
Elizabeth Hall
Ed Kilcullen
Joan Little (phone)
Vernice McKee
Diane Shaffer
Honorable Michael Stamm (phone)
Joan Stine (phone)
Krista Trahan (phone)

Guests:

Crazy Frog, Bikers Against Child Abuse, Inc.
Sis, Bikers Against Child Abuse, Inc.
Brandi Stocksdales, Maryland Department of Human Services

Staff:

Kelly Gorman, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
William Jernigan, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Jessica Wheeler, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

I. Welcome, Introductions, Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:37 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes (August 2018)

Ms. Shaffer made a motion to approve the minutes. Detective Pyles seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the minutes were approved.

IV. Presentations

a. Bikers Against Child Abuse, Inc.

Crazy Frog and Sis presented an overview of Bikers Against Child Abuse, Inc. (BACA). Crazy Frog and Sis are the President and Treasurer of the Maryland Chesapeake Bay Region Chapter of BACA. BACA is a non-profit organization that strives to empower children who have suffered

child abuse. Their mission is to create a safer environment for these children and work in conjunction with state and local officials to provide support to the children. BACA consists of National and International chapters that work together to empower and support as many children as possible. Members are required to go through a thorough background check and a strict application process. Once a member, you are assigned to a child as a “primary,” meaning the child can call on them for support at any time. BACA mainly serves children ages three to eighteen. Each child receives a vest with the BACA patch sewed on and gets to choose a road name (a nickname) to go by while part of the BACA family. BACA continues to expand their services to abused children nationally and internationally.

b. Department of Human Services Overview

Ms. McKee and Ms. Stocksdales provided the Committee with an overview of Maryland’s Department of Human Services’ Child and Family Services Plan (“Plan”). Ms. McKee presented the three goals of the Plan. The Committee decided that it is most appropriate for them to focus on the first goal of the Plan, which is to improve safety for all infants, children, and youth in child welfare. Ms. Wheeler will allocate time at the next Committee meeting to discuss this goal in more detail and brainstorm what role the Committee can play.

V. Annual Children’s Justice Act Meeting Debrief

Mr. Eby and Detective Pyles provided the Committee a brief summary of this year’s Annual Children’s Justice Act Meeting. The main update was that State’s now have three years to expend their Children’s Justice Act grants whereas they previously had two years.

VI. Training Directory Workgroup Update

Ms. Wheeler presented the Training Directory to the Committee. The Training Directory will be a “living document” which can be edited or modified at any time. The directory will be posted on the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention’s website. Members agreed to link to additional websites with training event information in an effort to keep the document as up to date as possible. The workgroup will continue to modify the document and will present another draft version at the November CJAC meeting.

VII. State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect

There was not enough time during the meeting for Ms. Stine to provide State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (SCCAN) updates to the committee. Ms. Stine will provide SCCAN updates at the next committee meeting in November.

VIII. Old/New Business

Members discussed the feasibility of reducing the number of Committee meetings from six to four in 2019. The goal is to conduct more workgroup meetings in between the quarterly meetings to increase productivity of the Committee. The majority of members were in agreement with this change and Ms. Wheeler will provide members with the new schedule via email.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:35 p.m.

Next Meeting:

November 15, 2018

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

100 Community Place, 1st Floor, Conference Room Side B
Crownsville MD, 21032